

Richard Burr, Kit Bond, Wayne Allard, Jim Inhofe, Lisa Murkowski, George Voinovich.

Mr. DOMENICI. I ask unanimous consent that the live quorum be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DOMENICI. For the information of all Senators, this vote will occur on Thursday. In the meantime, I expect another full day to tomorrow with votes throughout the day. The cloture vote Thursday will enable us to bring this debate to a close and have a final vote on passage of the Energy bill this week.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there be a period for morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

JUVENILE DIABETES

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I thought I would take a moment to acknowledge that here with us today around the Capitol are hundreds of young advocates for a cure for juvenile diabetes. There are three young women who came to my office a few moments ago: Dominique Legaux, Liz Kramm, and Laura Rutledge. I would like to take this opportunity to submit their letters for the RECORD. All of these letters call on us to focus on the challenges before so many of our young people with juvenile diabetes and call on us to explore the possibility of stem cell research on their behalf.

I thank the chairman. I ask unanimous consent these letters be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEAR SCHEDULER CENICOLA, thank you for talking the time to schedule a meeting between myself and Senator Landrieu. I know that you must be very busy, but your time will not be wasted scheduling this meeting. The continued research for juvenile diabetes is very important to me and I wish to convey this message to Senator Landrieu on June 21.

Many thanks,

DOMINIQUE LEGANX.

DEAR MS. AMY CENICOLA, my name is Liz Kramm and I am a children's delegate for JDRF's 2005 Children's Congress. Thanks so much for helping me set up a meeting with Senator Landrieu on the 21st of June.

Many thanks,

LIZ KRAMM.

DEAR MS. CENICOLA, my name is Laura Rutledge, I am eleven years old, and I am a 2005 Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Children's Congress delegate. I was diagnosed with Type One Diabetes when I was 17 months old. I suffer daily and deal with a lot of self-control and discipline. Thank you for helping me meet with Senator Landrieu on June 21!

Many thanks,

LAURA RUTLEDGE.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, will my colleague yield for a question?

Ms. LANDRIEU. For one moment, yes.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I was going to ask a question relating to stem cell research. I had a wonderful group of young people from Michigan in my office as well. I commend the Senator from Louisiana for bringing up this issue. We have families here talking literally about saving lives and about hope for their children.

I am hopeful, as I am sure the Senator from Louisiana is, that we will, by July, have the opportunity to bring before this body the very important issue of stem cell research and have a vote by this body.

I thank my colleague from Louisiana.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I thank my colleague from Michigan. I yield the floor.

(At the request of Mr. REID, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE

• Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I will be necessarily absent from the business of the Senate for a portion of today in order to attend the high school graduation ceremonies for my son. I will also necessarily be absent from the Senate beginning tomorrow afternoon and continuing into late afternoon Thursday, in order to join my colleagues from North Dakota and Minnesota to attend the hearings of the base-closing commission that are being held in Grand Forks, ND. I have notified the leadership of these expected absences. •

DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION IN MIDDLE EAST

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I recently spoke on the floor about the Ninth Annual World Congress on Civic Education in Amman, Jordan sponsored by the Center for Civic Education. The purpose of that conference was to share information about successful education programs under the Civitas: An International Civic Education Exchange Program, an authorized program of the No Child Left Behind Act and one which is helping to strengthen democratization efforts throughout the world.

A recent news editorial in The Jordan Times supporting the goals of the conference and the outstanding work the Center for Civic Education and their international colleagues are doing in this strategic part of the world was welcome support. I ask unanimous consent that the editorial from The Jordan Times on Sunday, June 5, 2005, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Jordan Times, Jun. 5, 2005]

CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY

Parents, teachers and official policy makers should be keeping a keen eye on an im-

portant congress taking place in Amman this week—the World Congress on Civic Education. But more importantly, they, and all citizens should be made aware of the work of the Jordanian Centre for Civic Education Studies (JCCES) and the Arab Civic Education Network (Arab Civitas)

In a nutshell, these organisations are teaching our children about being good citizens. They are teaching them about not only their rights as citizens, but also their responsibilities. They are teaching elementary school students to respect the basics of democracy by engaging them, through stories, on the concepts of responsibility, privacy, authority and justice.

To many, democracy, and all that it entails, is taken for granted. It never should be.

That Jordan brought back an elected Parliament in 1989 was a milestone in the process of the country's democratisation. And while that process has been confronted with obstacles that have contributed to its regression, one arena that can save and enhance it is education.

It was therefore encouraging to hear Minister of Education Khalid Touqan address the opening plenary of the congress on behalf of Her Majesty Queen Rania and say that "efforts are still being exerted to make democracy part of our daily life, in families, schools, public life and mass media."

When the ministry accepted to introduce civic education as a separate subject in the Kingdom's schools, the first big step was taken. Today, the Project Citizen programme, being undertaken in schools as well as universities through the JCCES and Arab Civitas, is preparing generations of civic-minded citizens by educating them and involving them in problem-solving issues affecting their community and society, such as pollution, basic utilities, elections, the jobless rate and taxes. The programme helps instill a sense of community responsibility while educating the students on their rights.

It is precisely this sort of awareness that will help motivate citizens to vote for candidates who will fulfil their needs, not tribal members who will perpetuate the culture of "waste." It is precisely this sort of programme that will help guarantee His Majesty King Abdullah's plan to bring local government back to the people and this time have it work.

This is why the JCCES and Arab Civitas projects and programmes must be supported and even extended to the larger community.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR JIM EXON

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, it's an honor to pay tribute to a great man, a distinguished Senator, and a dear friend who passed away on June 10, Senator Jim Exon of Nebraska.

Last week, I joined several of my colleagues in attending his funeral in Lincoln, NE. It was inspiring to be with the people who knew him best and loved him most. Jim was a giant in Nebraska politics not because of the power he wielded but because of the respect and affection he had earned.

Jim Exon was a decent man, without pretension or prejudice. He spoke plainly. He called it like he saw it. He did what he thought was right, regardless of the pressure that might have been put on him. Jim laughed the same wonderful, booming laugh with Presidents as he did with the people back home. He was a large man, and he had a heart to match.